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No. 8

ROSES.

Roses, roses, let them grow,
Thickly clust'ring all around,
Other flowers shall have a place,
But the rose shall most abound,
Standing by the gravel walk,
Climbing to the window-seat,
Growing close about the door,
Roses, beautiful and sweet.

—Lloyd.

You rosebuds in the morning dew,
How pure amang the leaves sae green!

—Burns.

ROSES, poetry, and love! a trio of graces from the remote ages.

Always has the rose been an object of interest, and never more so than today. It is the British national flower. On the 22d of this month occurs a pageant in London which will attract the attention of the people of all nations,—the celebration of the 60th anniversary of the coronation of Queen Victoria. It is proposed that all who take part in that celebration shall wear the national floral emblem, and all others everywhere who wish to honor the event. Besides it is proposed that hereafter the 22d day of June shall be known throughout the British realm as "Rose Day," in honor of England and good Queen Victoria.

In this country for several years a practice has been growing up of the observance of a Sunday in June called "Rose Sunday," when the churches are decorated with roses, and special services are held for the children.

But the rose does not derive its popularity from occasions or observances,—on the contrary it lends itself to the adornment of these. The universal favor in which it is held arises from its own inherent and intrinsic qualities. Every grace demanded of a flower is possessed by the rose,—graceful form, beauty of colors, and lastly, that most subtle charm, fragrance. The demand for roses in this country, as cut flowers, if it could be accurately stated, would be deemed almost incredible. They are wanted at all seasons of the year, and no matter how often seen their presence is never tiresome. The persistent popularity of the rose over a great length of time has constantly acted as a stimulus to the gardener's cunning,

with the result that thousands of varieties have been produced, and at this time more new and meritorious ones are annually placed before the public than ever before. The crossing and re-crossing of teas with hybrid perpetuals, teas with the polyantha varieties, crossings of Rosa rugosa and the sweet briar, and the intermingling of their progeny have started a rose wave that has been rising for several years, and as yet we cannot see the crest of the flood.

always taken the lead in raising new varieties of roses, and the greatest number come from this source every year. English rose growers, however, are very conspicuous, and though not originating as many, yet a greater proportion of their varieties stand the test of time. American varieties are comparatively few, but their number is increasing every year, the firm of Dingee & Conard being prominent as originators of new varieties.

A few of the choicest only of the newer kinds will here be noticed,—such as have fully established, by sufficient tests, their meritorious qualities, and may be confidently accepted by the amateur grower.

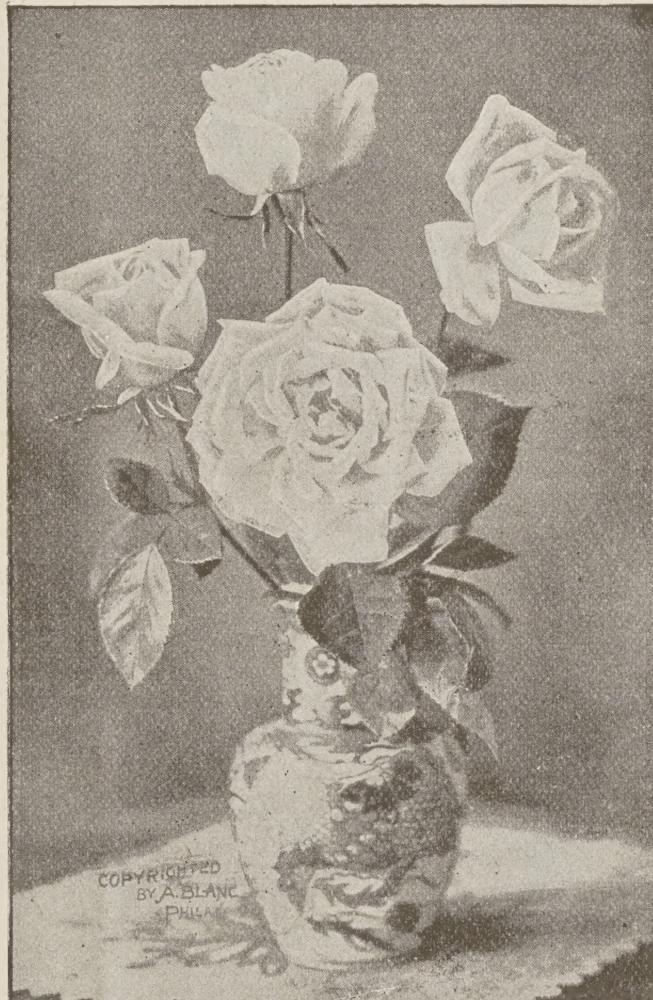
Souvenir du President Carnot is one of the latest French acquisitions of merit. It is a tea rose of strong growth, with leaves unusually large and handsome. The flower is very large, quite double and exquisitely shaped. The petals are thick and heavy, and the open flower appears to be perfection itself in grace and finish. The color is described as a rosy flesh or rosy blush, darker at the center; it has a delicious tea fragrance. The flowers are borne on long, stiff stems and in great abundance. It is believed that this variety will be very profitable for the florist, and also well adapted to the private grower.

The Bride, though not a new rose is a modern one, and one of great beauty and excellence. It is a sport from the French variety Catherine Mermet, originating in this country in 1885, with John N. May. It is of large size and fine form, pure white, a strong, healthy grower and free bloomer.

The following five varieties, introduced by Dingee & Conard, are highly recommended by them:

PRINCESS BONNIE.—A hardy and very prolific variety, blooming continuously in the open ground from May until severe frosts. Flowers produced on long, stiff stems, semi-double, and of a rich, glowing crimson; very fragrant.

MARION DINGEE.—A strong and vigorous grower, making a handsome, graceful bush, with large, thick, deep green leaves; the flowers are large, beautifully cup-shaped, moderately full, and borne on long, straight stems, in wonderful profusion all through the growing season; the color is a deep, brilliant crimson,



SOUVENIR DU PRESIDENT CARNOT.

Many of the new varieties are of great beauty, and distinctly challenge attention and admiration. Rose growers cannot remain content with only the older and well known kinds. The substantial qualities of many of the newer hybrids are irresistible to the rose fancier, and the new forms developed in the crossings of the polyantha and rugosa and sweet briar are so striking, and withal so unexpected, that one is almost bewildered with their novelty and beauty. The French have

the darkest of all Tea roses. This variety is particularly valuable in the open ground.

GOLDEN GATE.—A magnificent variety with extra large, full, finely formed flowers; buds large and beautiful. The color is rich, creamy white, delicately tinged with golden yellow and tinted with clear rose, making a rose of rare and indescribable beauty. A strong grower, and blooms freely and continuously.

THE QUEEN.—This is a large, pure white rose, exquisitely scented, a continuous bloomer and healthy and vigorous grower.

CORONET.—This is the latest introduction of Dingee & Conard. It is a cross between Paul Neyron and Bon Silene, and so is properly what is known as a Hybrid Tea. The flowers are full, deep and double, frequently measuring from four to six inches in diameter, and full to the center. The color of the bud is a deep, rich carmine, and that of the open flower a soft, clear pink, each petal distinctly edged with a silvery gray; very fragrant. A strong, healthy grower, and particularly desirable for cultivation in the open ground.

MRS. PIERPONT MORGAN is another of John N. May's varieties. A sport from Madame Cusine, and in every way superior to that variety. Flowers large and very double; color intensely bright cerise or rose pink; petals broad and massive; very free flowering.

MAMAN COCHET is a new pink Tea rose introduced last year, and is considered one of the most satisfactory varieties in open ground culture. It is a splendid grower, and blooms profusely. Flowers very large and

for culture under glass. Its great beauty of form is shown in the engraving here presented.

MARGARET DICKSON.—This is considered the finest white Hybrid Perpetual. It was sent out by Dickson & Son, Ireland, in 1891. The

stems; very fragrant. It has been given a Certificate of Merit by the Massachusetts Horticultural Society.

MARCHIONESS OF LONDONDERRY is another white Hybrid Perpetual lately sent out by Dickson & Sons, Ireland. Flowers of great size, beautifully formed, and borne on strong stems; color ivory white; petals of great substance, shell-shaped and reflexed; very fragrant; growth vigorous; free flowering. Ellwanger & Barry, who have bloomed it in this country, regard it as a valuable acquisition to the list of hardy white roses.

MARCHIONESS OF DOWNSHIRE and Mrs. R. G. Sharma Crawford are two of the Hybrid Remontants sent out by the Dicksons. The first of these is of a beautiful satin pink color, shaded with rose; flowers large and full; petals of great substance. Of vigorous growth, and free flowering.

MRS. CRAWFORD is a deep, rosy pink, outer petals shaded with pale flesh, white at base of petals; flowers large, of perfect, imbricated form, and freely produced, flowering from early summer until late in autumn. Growth vigorous.

Two more Hybrid Perpetuals, the very latest productions of the same growers, are Helen Keller, the color a brilliant rosé cerise; flowers large, perfect form, fragrant; vigorous grower and free bloomer. The other called Mavourneen; flowers large, full, and perfectly formed; color delicate silvery pink;

flowers freely produced throughout the season.

Henderson & Co., of New York, introduced this spring a large crimson rose called Jubilee. It was raised in 1892 by

M. H. Walsh, Woods Holl, Mass., and is a seedling from Prince Camille de Rohan crossed by Louis Van Houtte. In 1893 it was given a First Class Certificate by the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, and in 1895 by the same Society was awarded a Gold Medal. The flower is of large size, beautiful form; the color is described as "a pure red in its deepest tone, shading to crimson-red and velvety maroon-red in the depths of the petals." The introducer further says:

It is a true Hybrid Remontant rose, perfectly hardy, blooming in the fall as well as the early summer; very vigorous; large, dark green foliage, one of its distinguishing features; short jointed, long flower stems, and branches freely,



BRIDESMAID.

flower is of magnificent form, almost as large as Paul Neyron; the petals are large, of great substance, beautifully reflexed, pure white tinted with pale flesh at the center; fragrant. A vig-



THE PINK RAMBLER AND THE WHITE RAMBLER.

AMERICAN BEAUTY.—It is considered the largest and most beautiful of all the hardy roses. It is a strong grower and continuous bloomer. Flowers very large and double; color, a rich, rosy crimson; very fragrant. It is an excellent garden variety and one of the most highly prized

orous grower and free bloomer.

LILIAN NORDICA.—This is a seedling of Margaret Dickson crossed with Madame Hoste, and probably will be considered a Hybrid Tea. Flowers large, white, borne on long, straight

blooms most abundantly, three flowers and over on each shoot,—the ideal habit for a hardy garden rose. Flowers very fragrant.

The following named kinds of this class are also highly recommended, and undoubtedly have substantial merits:

LAURENCE ALLEN, said to be a rival to Her Majesty. Somewhat similar in appearance to Baroness Rothschild. Extra large flowers with a sweet perfume; petals stiff and slightly reflexed: color, a clear, soft pink with lighter shading. A strong, erect grower, and an early and free bloomer.

BLADUD is a light-colored rose, flowers large, full and globular; outside petals silvery white, the center pale blush-pink. Growth strong and erect; free blooming.

MRS. CLEVELAND is another flower of the Baroness Rothschild style. Flowers of remarkable beauty and immense size, double and full; color a bright, clear pink.

CLIO.—A large, handsome flower of globular form; color a delicate flesh, shaded in center with rosy pink. Blooms very freely.

CAPTAIN HAYWARD is a brilliant rose. Flowers large and full, outer petals finely reflexed; bright scarlet. A strong grower and free bloomer.

CRIMSON QUEEN is a vigorous, robust plant; flowers very large and full, of globular form; color is velvety crimson, shaded with firey red in the center, with maroon on the outer petals. A valuable variety either for open ground or for forcing.

The twice-blooming habit possessed by some members of the Hybrid Perpetual class is a most desirable feature, and this is particularly noticed in many of the new varieties. It appears from the testimony of correspondents that Vick's Caprice is unusually conspicuous on this account, some saying that there is hardly any time during the summer when it does not show some flowers.

The list of climbing roses is rapidly enlarging. Crimson Rambler bears all tests that it has been subjected to, and maintains the high character that was ascribed to it at its introduction. It appears to be an unusually hardy variety, standing unharmed, without protection, through our coldest winters. It is as valuable for bedding and pegging down as for training up, and besides it has remarkable value for potting as a window bloomer, producing freely a great mass of its beautiful crimson flowers. The engraving on the first cover page of this number shows its character in this respect.

But it appears that the Crimson Rambler is not to stand alone bearing peculiar honors. Other varieties also have similar qualities, and the Yellow Rambler, the White Rambler, and the

Pink Rambler, all claim a share of attention and admiration. The Yellow Rambler, Aglaia, has already been figured and described in our pages. It probably may not be as hardy as the Crimson variety, and may need to be laid down and covered in the winter in the very cold regions. The Yellow Rambler, Aglaia, is a seedling of a cross of the Polyantha rose Sarmentosa, with *Rêve d'Or*. Euphrosyne, the Pink Rambler, is a seedling from a cross of the species Sarmentosa with Mignonette; and Thalia, the White Rambler, is another seedling of a cross of Sarmentosa with Paquerette. The originator of these three varieties is Peter Lambert, a German rosarian.

Jackson & Perkins, of Newark, N. Y., as representatives of the originator, have introduced them into this country. These varieties have acquired the name of the "Three Graces." Yellow

Rambler is said to be a clear, decided yellow; Pink Rambler a clear, light red; and the White Rambler a pure white. All have the free growth and blooming habit of the Crimson Rambler.

Another new climber of the Polyantha class is the Climbing White Pet, described as a strong, vigorous grower; a very free bloomer, producing its flowers in clusters like the Crimson Rambler; flowers very double and pure white. Claire Jaquier with nankeen-yellow flowers, and Max Singer, with flowers a light red, are similar in habit to Climbing White Pet.

A rose which has been before the public now for two or three years, should be noticed in this connection. It is the Empress of China. Just what is its history cannot be stated. It is claimed to be hardy, a rapid grower, and a free bloomer. "It continues

to bloom throughout the entire season," say the Dingee & Conard Co., who are sending it out. A very profuse bloomer. The flower strongly resembles a Tea rose; color, soft, dark red, changing to light red.

A class of roses which has lately sprung into notice is that of the Hybrid Sweet Briars. These are seedlings of crosses between the common Sweet Briar and other varieties. They retain the fragrant foliage of the common parent, with single flowers, varying in color with the varieties. Those who love the Sweet Briar odor will be interested in these new-comers.

And now, if the reader should think that the list is finished, and the story told, he would make a great mistake. The varieties noticed perhaps stand out more prominently, but those not mentioned are, by far, the most numerous. The activity that rules in the horticultural world under the reign of the "Queen of Flowers" is unequalled in any other floral realm.



AMERICAN BEAUTY.

CRIMSON RAMBLER ROSE.

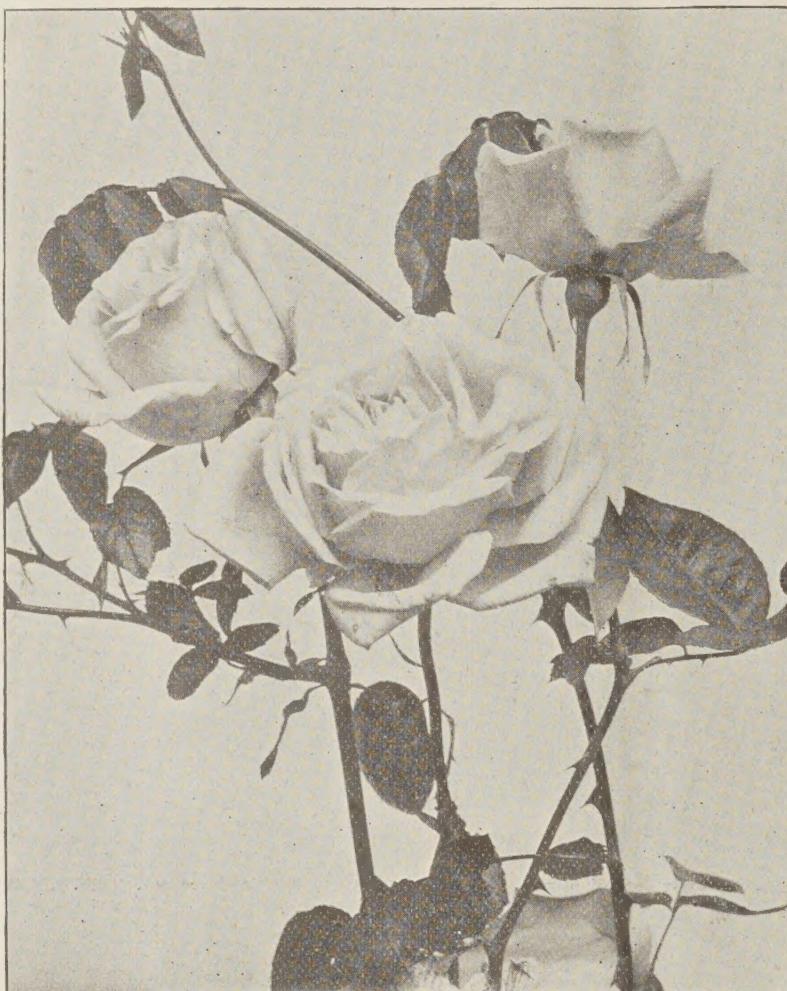
THIS rose has had an unusual amount of advertising since its introduction in 1892, everything being said in its favor and nothing to its disadvantage. When this is done, people are inclined to think that something is wrong, as no plant can be entirely perfect, and stand the effect of all climates and soils, and yet do its best. So far as I can learn, however, this wonderful rose has no failing, with the exception of a slight tendency to mildew in some localities; this is so small a fault and so easily remedied that it is hardly worth while to speak of it, and I would not do so were it not for the fact that by so doing I might influence someone when planting it to give it the most favorable place. All that is necessary is to plant it in an airy position where the wind can have full access to the foliage.

A word about the history of this rose: Like most of our beautiful plants of recent introduction, this rose comes from Japan, being brought to England in 1878. It was only grown in private gardens for some years, and was known by the name of "The Engineer." In 1888 or 1889 the extra plants which had been raised from it were given into the hands of an English florist who gave it its present name, increased the stock as rapidly as possible and put it on the market. It is of the Polyantha class, having small flowers, but in extremely large clusters; indeed it is the most profuse bloomer of any rose known. Add to these qualities its extreme hardiness, rapid growth, and its habit of adapting itself to any soil and climate, and we have a rose hard to equal, and so far in the history of roses, unexcelled. When introduced in England it was awarded the Gold Medal, which is the highest honor that can be given to any plant; but the judges freely confessed that no award could show their appreciation of it. It also received the gold medal given by the National Horticultural Society of France, one from the National Rose Society of England, and also one from the International Exposition.

The plant, though a natural and very rampant climber, can be grown in several ways: As a bush rose, if desired, by tying the leading shoots to a stout stake and pinching off the ends of the branches to induce them to branch freely. As a pot plant it is also a grand success, though it

requires a large space; one recently presented at a flower show was a magnificent sight,—the plant was growing in a twelve-inch pot, and was about four feet high and perhaps three feet wide, with a great many branches; an attempt was made to count the number of buds and blossoms on it, and though it was a difficult task the work was accomplished, so it was found that there were more than 4,000 blossoms on it. This was a wonderful specimen, but if a rose-grower could have such success surely an amateur could raise one with a hundred buds and blossoms at one time.

Another nice way to grow this rose is by pegging down the shoots close to the



THE BRIDE.

ground, leaving them eight or ten inches apart. Every bud on the stalk will then throw up a new branch, many of the buds being latent ones that never amount to anything when a rose grows upright. Every branch will furnish a cluster of flowers, and when done blooming they also can be pegged down. On the grounds in England, where this rose was first grown, a beautiful effect was produced by growing the rose on pillars along one side of the house, and pegged down in front of the pillars, the rose made a perfect carpet of brilliant flowers scattered thickly over the green foliage. The clusters are often immense, the number of roses in each varying from twelve to thirty. They are a wonder in them-

selves, being a perfect bouquet, often measuring seven or eight inches in length and five or six in width; a plant in full bloom is just a vine covered with bouquets and is a sight never to be forgotten. The color is grand, being a very clear, rich crimson, which, so far as I have seen, shows little tendency to fade in the sun. The foliage is a rich green and somewhat glossy, and the plant retains its leaves longer than most roses.

This rose has become so popular in a short time that it is no wonder there have been great efforts made to produce new varieties of the same sort. There are advertised this year a Yellow Rambler, a Pink Rambler and a White Rambler, and if they prove as valuable as the Crimson Rambler we shall have a set of climbers that are well nigh perfect.

BERNICE BAKER.

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WILD ROSES.

"I walked in the joyous morning,
The morning of June and life,
Ere the birds had ceased to warble
Their sweetness of love and strife;
I walked alone in the morning,
And who was so glad as I,
When I saw the pale wild roses
Hang from the branch on high!"

Other wild flowers may be more boldly and strikingly beautiful, but none surpass the wild rose in delicate and graceful beauty or sweet perfume. Its pink tints are extremely beautiful, and many an artist has found in this flower a fit subject for his brush. Fading almost as soon as taken from the parent stem, the wild rose has no value as a cut flower, and nature evidently intended that it should remain on its parent stem for the pleasure of every passer-by. One or two of my friends have tried transplanting this rose into their flower gardens but the experiment was a failure. It would, it seems to me, be

less beautiful in the garden than in the woods and fields. Like most wild flowers, its charm is lessened when taken from the environment nature intended it should have.

H. H. H.

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PRINCESS BONNIE is one of the loveliest of the new ever-blooming roses. It has no superior and very few equals. Its color is something indescribable; a richer, deeper crimson was ever seen in a rose, while its fragrance is even more subtle and delicate than that of La France. It is a profuse bloomer and as easy of cultivation as the most ordinary rose. Indeed, one finds in Princess Bonnie every attribute one longs for in the rose and it might well be called the perfection rose.

CLERODENDRON BALFOURI.

THE clerodendron can hardly be called a rare plant, and yet it is found in few private collections. The specimen which first excited my admiration was growing and blooming luxuriantly in the Horticultural Hall in Philadelphia. It had climbed high above my head upon the wall, and hung its airy flowers in rich, glittering panicles of white and crimson along its entire length, until it looked like a floating cloud of bloom.

The blossom of the clerodendron is a

specimens, the temperature runs from near 75° at night to 85° in daytime; but the amateur, who does not expect such luxuriant growth and would hardly know what to do with it should it occur, can winter the clerodendron at a much lower temperature,—just above frost,—as it is dormant in winter. In spring, as soon as it begins to grow and prepare for bloom, nature will raise the temperature perhaps even higher than it likes. It must have plenty of water after growth begins, and will do better if its beautiful leaves are

be grown as a pot shrub by pinching back the ends of the shoots. I think it much more graceful when trained up on a wall or trellis. Of the shrubby clerodendrons, *C. fragrans*, with double white flowers, is reputed the best.

L. GREENLEE.

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A FINE THREE-ACRE GARDEN.

It is an encouraging sign of the times that finds an increasing number of people, every year, turning to rural life and the garden, for various advantages.



CLERODENDRON BALFOURI.

curious and beautiful thing. The bright corolla is enclosed in a filmy white calyx, through which it glows like fire, down to the tip, where it triumphantly spreads in a flash of color, free of the calyx and below it.

Clerodendron Balfouri is the species most liked for conservatory and window culture. It is quite easy to grow in ordinary potting soil of turf loam, with sharp sand and well rotted manure added to make the compost rich and porous. In hothouses, where one finds magnificent

kept fresh and clean by syringing, when showers are infrequent. Plants that are set outdoors should have full exposure to light, but not enough of the direct, burning sun to scorch the foliage.

A carefully treated clerodendron will be full of bloom all summer. As the dormant stage comes on, in the fall, water can be withheld until the leaves turn yellow and drop off, the signal for its retirement to some quiet corner until growth begins again in the spring.

C. Balfouri is of climbing habit, but can

This movement is especially noticeable in the case of business, professional and other people who are daily occupied in town, but who prefer to have their homes, for a portion of the year at least, in the country. Indeed, the writer has observed in a number of instances, where town people have moved to the country,—expecting to remain for the summer,—they have been so well pleased with the change that their choice lies in the country the year round. It might surprise some to know that it is the children more

often than their elders who, in such cases, raise a protest against returning to town to live. Children, above all others, love the country.

Another view of this matter is the one relating to "abandoned farms," of which so much was said in the newspapers a few years ago, the references being principally to such in the eastern States. We do not hear much about abandoned farms today. This is because it seemed only necessary for the facts about the farms to become known in order to have them largely occupied. In some States, notably Massachusetts, the commonwealth catalogued these farms, giving location, description, and price, with the result that many of the best tracts found buyers ready to pay the prices asked. The takers of the farms in most cases, we believe, were city men who were ready to provide themselves with a home in the country, if it could be done at a reasonable price.

But while there may be many people ready to turn to the country and possess

with the culinary and fruit department. There is also a wild garden, consisting in part of a hillside clothed with natural trees and shrubs, and the low part of this is crossed by a rill. A small pasture lot lies beyond the wild garden, and this is connected with the barnyard by a narrow lane. One cow is kept on the place, and about twenty fowls.

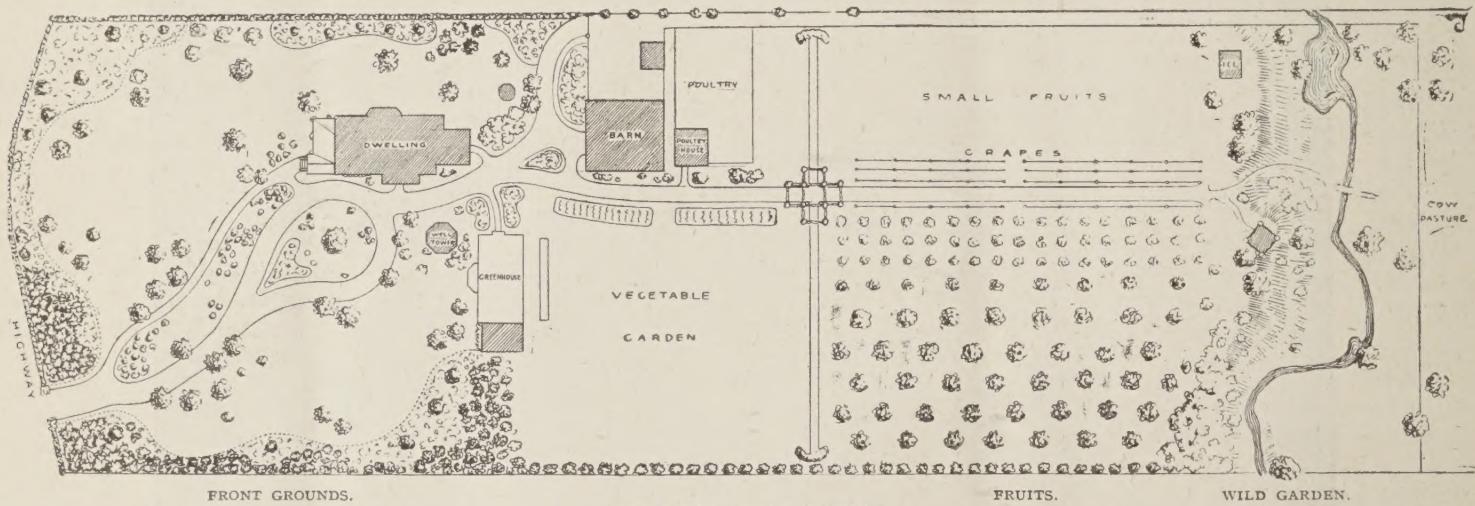
Although this garden presents quite an elaborate appearance, yet as conceived and carried out by its sensible owner, the outlay for the improvements, considered as a complete home, has been comparatively light. In that important fact is to be found the lesson which we desire to draw from this garden, for the benefit of our readers.

The first point to note is that the owner is a man who believes that to put a thousand dollars less into the dwelling, and applying that amount in the grounds would result in a much handsomer home than to erect a somewhat finer house and then slight the surroundings. In that he certainly was right, as all careful observa-

usually, to get a garden and lawn into shape for planting in the best manner, to have the stock growing on the grounds during that year, brings it along in excellent shape by the time the land is fully ready for it.

Lastly, the owner of these grounds maintains them economically. He keeps one man the year round, who, besides having in charge all the garden work, attends the horse, cow and poultry.

The main feature of the ornamental portion of the grounds consists of the marginal borders, as shown in the plan. These are kept tilled by hoe and rake, a task in which the owner and his son take part. As no weeds are allowed to grow beyond their first appearance, this task of border tillage is a light one. The mowing of the grass plat is done with a horse lawn mower, which makes quick and light work of that part. The vegetable and fruit garden is planted in long rows, some of which are cultivated with the hand weeder, others with the hoe, but all with economy of labor. Occasionally,



FRONT GROUNDS.

A FINE THREE-ACRE GARDEN.

FRUITS.

WILD GARDEN.

a farm, there are many more who, without caring for much land, would feel that their ideas were very well met if they had a country home of a few acres. Such a garden is the one of three acres, exclusive of a small pasture lot, shown in the accompanying plan. It represents a home situated within a dozen miles of a large Western New York town, and is occupied by the owner and his family the year round. Its owner is a business man in the city, and he goes back and forth from home to store daily. The house stands within half a mile of the railroad station, and this, with the low commutation tickets for the trip and the quick time of the trains, makes it almost as convenient for any member of the family to get to town for business, for school, or for shopping as though living in town a few miles from its center.

It is evident, by a glance at the plan, that the owner sought to have his home beautiful, as well as useful in the sense of raising fruit and vegetables for the home supply. About as much space is taken up with lawn, shrubbery, trees, etc., as

tion shows. A \$4,000 house having an ample, beautiful garden as its seat, is unquestionably more pleasing than a \$5,000 one situated in an unattractive plat. This is a point which it would be well for home improvers to bear in mind.

In the next place this home-owner purchased his planting stock wisely. His rule for several years was to buy small-sized stock from the nurseries, and then to set it in nursery rows on his grounds, there to stand for several years before planting permanently; the average home improver might think this a mistake, but not so, for several reasons: First,—small sized stock costs less at the nursery, costs less for shipping, and the growing of such is more certain, because in proportion as a tree or shrub is small more roots are preserved to it in the digging,—a fact that counts directly on future success. Second,—by having the stock in nursery rows on the grounds, it can be transplanted a year later, and thereafter, with much more safety and during a longer period, than by taking it from the shipping boxes. Third,—as it takes a year,

especially in spring, an extra hand is employed by the day. The care of the small greenhouse falls to the regular hand, who has ample leisure for this work during the winter and early spring.

The limits of the present article will not permit of speaking in detail of the trees, shrubs and plants growing in this garden. Suffice to say that of the hard wooded kinds,—of which there are upwards of 400 subjects,—they embrace an amount sufficiently large to give a steady succession of beauty and interest to the plantation the year round. The conifers are numerous, and are planted mainly in that portion of the grounds represented by the lower part of the engraving, being indicated by the heavier outlines. They are planted in this part of the grounds,—to the southwest, because it is the direction of prevailing winds. These grounds are pretty well elevated and the wind has a long sweep from that direction; but already the evergreens begin to shield the grounds and the buildings quite perceptibly. From the heavy mass of evergreens, chiefly pines (near the entrance),

Arbor vitæs and spruces, a screen of Norway spruce extends along the south line to the wild garden for the purpose of sheltering the vegetable and fruit plantations. It is seen that evergreens occupy rather more than one-half of the south border. The remainder of the border space is occupied with deciduous flowering shrubs and hardy and tender plants. Such likewise constitute the chief plantings of the marginal beds, along the front and north side of the grounds. All the borders have a few trees located in them. There is a border of California privet along the highway, and one of honey locust on the north line. A large native white oak occupies the center of the turning drive.

A striking ornamental feature in the rear part of the grounds is the arrangement of twelve pillars for vines, and which are connected top and top with wires. It stands at the crossing of walks a little back from the poultry yard. The wild garden beyond the orchard has been left nearly in its natural state,—some plants, shrubs and trees, however, have been set there. There is an arbor on top of the bluff in the wild garden as shown. The place is supplied with water, from a never-failing well, located between the dwelling and the greenhouse. Over the well there is a tower, on top of which is a head-tank; water is pumped into the tank by means of a kerosene engine, and distributed through pipes to various parts of the grounds. *

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NEW PERENNIAL PLANTS.

TWO perennial plants, new to the gardens of this country, are here presented. They are both quite different from anything we have. The engravings and the substance of the descriptions are taken from the *Journal of Horticulture*.

Scopolia Fladnichiana is a native of Central Europe,—principally of Hungary. It is described as a robust growing herbaceous plant, with pretty, bell-shaped, pale yellow flowers. The form of the flower is like that of the campanula, but the plant belongs to the order *Solanaceæ*, or Nightshade family. It is represented as appearing perfectly hardy on the top of rock-work in a locality not far from London, and blooms early in March. In this locality it would probably bloom in May,

The other plant here figured comes from Japan, that country which has enriched our garden flora during the past half cen-

the flowers are very different from those of any plant which we possess. It was first brought to England in 1881; in 1892 it was shown in bloom at a plant show at the Crystal Palace, and was named, by the authorities of the Kew Gardens, "*Schizocodon soldanelloides*." The significance of this name appears on



SCOPOLIA FLADNICHIANA.

analysis, as it is formed from *schizo*, to cut, and *codon*, a bell, the bell-shaped flower having their margins cut into fringes; *soldanelloides* means that the general appearance of plant and foliage is like that of the Soldanella, a genus of the Primrose family. It is really a member of the Diapensia family, and a close relative of the Galax and Shortia. It bears "a resemblance in foliage and flowers to *Shortia galacifolia*. It is a dwarf plant, attaining to a height of two or three inches only, and bearing its charming, rosy flowers very freely. A marked feature of the latter is the deep lacination of the segments, which make the flower look as if fringed. It is a most beautiful little plant, and it is to be hoped that it will seed readily, so that a stock may be procurable." The *Journal* adds further that "the plant has proved quite hardy during the past winter, and it may therefore be classed as a valuable addition to the list of choice outdoor plants."

Whether one or both of these plants will be suited to this country generally can only be learned by actual test. Undoubtedly they will be adapted somewhere, and so some gardens may be the richer for them. No class of plants is more valuable than the perennials, and any valuable additions to them are received with pleasure. European gardens are better supplied with these hardy plants than are our own, and English, French and German gardeners are always desirous to obtain new acquisitions of this kind. As gardening interest increases in this country the importance of the hardy plants will be more and more appreciated. The flowering shrubs, and hardy, blooming climbers, and hardy herbaceous plants should be the solid frame-work of every good flower garden.



SCHIZOCODON SOLDANELLOIDES.

tury with so many beautiful specimens of trees, shrubs and plants of various kinds. As may be seen by the illustration,



ROCHESTER, N. Y., JUNE, 1897.

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CHARLES W. SEELVE, Editor.

ELIAS A. LONG, Associate,
(formerly conductor of *Popular Gardening*).

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H. P. HUBBARD, M'g'r.

School Yard Improvements.

The subject of school yard improvements is one that has been agitated for many years, but, as yet, without much practical result. Most school yards are small, and their use must be principally as playgrounds for the children, and with such use very little can be expected from planting in them flowering shrubs or plants. It is a very fortunate case that even some shade trees succeed in living and growing. With great care shade trees may be secured, especially if the children can be kept interested in them, as they may be if properly taught and trained. But besides these the yards must be clear for the children's use. Still there is something to be done to beautify the place, and that without interfering with it as a playground,—and that is planting climbing vines to run over the porch and on the walls, and, perhaps, to train on the fences.

For this purpose are suitable quite a number of different plants, among which are our native, hardy clematis, *C. Virginiana*; the European sweet clematis, *C. Flammula*; the Japanese species, *C. paniculata*; and the large-flowered hybrid forms, prominent among which are *C. Jackmanni*, *C. Henryi*, and *Madame Edouard Andre*. Among the climbing honeysuckles are eight or ten fine, hardy varieties. The trumpet flower, *Bignonia* or *Tecoma radicans*, is hardy and beauti-

ful. The Chinese wistaria will succeed well over a broad region. *Ampelopsis Veitchii*, the Virginia Creeper, and the Dutchman's Pipe, *Aristolochia siphon*, are all admirable. With a little more attention, running roses might also be employed. It will be seen that there is sufficient variety to select from to suit almost all cases and situations, and much may be done with these vines in adorning the school buildings and grounds, and that without detracting from the latter as playgrounds.

**

Improvement in Lantanas.

The flowers of the lantana have always been admired, but the strong growth of the plants has unsuited them for extensive use in summer bedding. An improvement in this respect is reported. M. Bruant, of Poitier, France, according to the *Gardeners' Chronicle*, has succeeded in fixing the habit of a number of dwarf varieties. The following varieties are offered:

Fabiola, rose colored; Stahl, large flower, of an orange color, which takes on a reddish tinge with age; Muse, very large flower, wavy margin, a butter yellow, and later of a sunset tinge, edged with rose; Cinna is a valerian red; Fournaise, flowers and corymb large, and the color a fiery nasturtium-red.

The lantanas do well bedded out in this country, and these varieties will probably prove to be valuable acquisitions.

**

The New Roses.

Much space is devoted to the rose in the present issue of the MAGAZINE, particularly with the intention of presenting to its readers the new or recently introduced varieties of greatest merit. The whole subject of rose-growing is so vast, and it has so many phases under varying conditions that the last word in regard to it will never be said; much, therefore, in relation to it may be expected in the future.

**

The Memorial Rose.

This is the popular name of *Rosa Wichuraiana*, which proves to be an excellent cemetery plant. Mr. Charles Nichols, superintendent of Fairmount Cemetery, Essex, N. J., says:

I have tried the Memorial Rose for planting on graves and find the plant better adapted for covering graves than anything else I have ever seen.

This is very high praise, but we believe the plant to be quite worthy of it.

**

American Pomological Society.

This old and useful society will hold its 25th biennial session at Columbus, Ohio, September 1st, 2d and 3d. The officers are P. G. Berckmans, Augusta, Ga., President; C. L. Watrous, Des Moines, Iowa, First Vice-Pres.; L. C. Brackett, Lawrence, Kas., Secretary; Chas. E. Richardson, Boston, Mass., Treasurer.

New Plants.

It should be well understood that not all of the new plants mentioned in our pages are at present procurable in this country. They are noticed that our readers may have some knowledge of them, as they will probably later be propagated and offered to the public by different establishments.

**

Book Notes.

FLOWERS OF FIELD, HILL AND SWAMP, by Caroline A. Creevy, author of "Recreations in Botany." Illustrated by Benjamin Lander. Published by Harper & Brothers, New York. Price \$2.50.

A popular account of some of the flowering plants of the Atlantic seaboard, including the New England and Middle States and as far south as Florida. It is a volume of 560 pages and nearly 200 engravings of plants. The design of the book is to give a description of each plant in language that may be easily understood by one having no knowledge of botanical terms. The plant descriptions are in separate chapters, each chapter containing a group of those species that most generally and naturally grow in a locality of certain character. A chapter is devoted to the plants of River banks, Brooks, Running Streams; another to those of Swamps, Bogs and Marshes; one to Aquatic Plants; another to Dry Fields, Waysides, Waste Places, etc., etc. The illustrations are also helpful in presenting the general appearance of the plants.

THE DAHLIA, Its History and Cultivation. Edited by William Cuthbertson, F.R.H.S. Published by The Macmillan Company, New York. Price 75 cts.

A full account of the dahlia, both historically and culturally. Five able writers unite in making the volume a complete treatise. It is an excellent work, and can be recommended to all who want a full guide in relation to the dahlia.

THE CHICAGO RECORD COOK-BOOK. Published by John E. Potter & Co., Ltd., Philadelphia.

A unique cook-book. The publishers say "It is a cook-book by the people and for the people. The unpublished cooking lore of all sections of our vast country has been drawn upon liberally." It is the most complete book of the character ever published.

**

Exposition at Omaha.

Omaha is preparing for a great exposition next year. A large amount,—over half a million dollars,—has already been subscribed for it, and it is expected that at least \$1,000,000 will be secured in stock subscriptions. Congress has appropriated \$200,000 for a national exhibit; the State of Nebraska has appropriated \$100,000, and the city of Omaha and Douglass County will raise \$200,000.

Nine large buildings are projected, and preparations of all kinds are being made for a great display. The Trans-Mississippi and International Exposition will open June 1st and close November 1st, 1898, at Omaha, Neb. Any information concerning it can be obtained by addressing the Exposition Bureau, Omaha, Neb.

Letter Box.

In this department we shall be pleased to answer any questions relating to Flowers, Vegetables and Plants, or to publish the experiences of our readers. EDITOR.

Amaranthus Sunset Tree.

I believe I have always forgotten to tell you that once from seed bought of you, I had an Amaranthus Sunset that grew so tall that an oriole mistook it for a tree and built her nest in it. That was in the Parish of West Baton Rouge, where the land is so rich that the planters say "one cannot find the bottom of it."

MRS. D. C.

Baton Rouge, La.

++

Plants on West side of house.

What plants will grow on the west side of the house, where the sun shines only a few hours each day?

Z.

If there is no shade almost all plants will do well there that will do well in any other exposure. Give good soil and good culture.

++

Early Blooming Shrub.

I send herewith a flower; can you tell me through the MAGAZINE, the name of it? It is a very early flower,—indeed I have known it to bloom on the 12th of January, though I think that was something unusual. I have read the MAGAZINE nearly ever since the first number was published. MRS. C. G. R.

Collingston, Md.

The specimen received was the Fly Honeysuckle, noticed in the Letter Box, in March, page 71. A good, early blooming shrub.

++

Potting a Screw Pine.

Will you please tell me in the Letter Box whether the formation of the roots of Pandanus utilis, (screw pine) should be above or under the soil? I have a beautiful specimen, and fear it is not potted right; I can see daylight between the roots below the base of the plant, and think plant is suffering. G. A. A.

The plant should, evidently, be set lower in the soil, so that the roots will be below the surface. Since potting, the soil has settled, and probably no allowance was made for this, as should have been done.

++

Insects on Apples in Washington.

I have been troubled the last few years with a grayish flat louse on my fruit trees—that is, the apple trees. Some think it is the oyster-shell louse. It seems almost impossible to get rid of them. Can you recommend anything to destroy them?

Cedar Mountain, Wash.

J. E. McD.

Write to your Experiment Station, making as full a statement of the case as possible, and send pieces of branch or shoot containing specimens of the insect. Address, E. A. Bryan, Agricultural Experiment Station, Pullman, Wash.

++

Propagating Clematis and Wistaria.—Transplanting Cobœa.

Please tell me through the MAGAZINE how to propagate Clematis paniculata and the Chinese wistaria. Will the wistaria bloom as far north as we live?

Will Cobœa scandens seedlings bear transplanting? Roscommon, Mich.

V. C. B.

The best way to propagate Clematis paniculata is by seeds; it may also be increased by layering and grafting. Chinese wistaria can be layered, and this is the best method for the amateur. We cannot answer the question about the blooming of wistaria in your locality.

Cobœa seedlings can be transplanted.

Care of LaFrance Roses.

Will you tell me just what care to give LaFrance roses, in detail, from time of receiving them to the next year?

L. V. G.

New Salem, N. Y.

The answer to this question in full, as is asked, would require a treatise on the rose. All that can be done is to refer our enquirer to the general instructions on rose culture given in our pages from time to time. In a few words it may be said that roses need a rich soil, a medium temperature, and freedom from all insect pests.

++

Christmas Rose.

Will you please tell me how to treat the Christmas rose, Helleborus niger. Mine has never bloomed.

Camden, N. J.

MRS. R. S.

Next November make a frame to set around the plant and cover it with an old window sash, with the glass in. Watch it and give it air every day and shut it up at night. If the weather should get very cold cover a blanket or piece of old carpet over the frame at night. Keep the frost out and don't let the sun heat up the frame too much in the daytime, and you will probably have flowers at Christmas time.

++

Little Gem Calla.

I have had a Little Gem calla for two years. It has grown nicely, but not a sign of a flower; it is now about twenty inches high and looks healthy. Instead of one stalk there must be eight or ten, and still more coming. What shall I do with it in order to get it to bloom?

K. J. U.

New Philadelphia, Ohio.

An inquiry similar to the above was answered in last month's MAGAZINE, page 102. When a calla tuber enters upon a stage of reproduction by offsets, as here described, it may be considered as past its usefulness as a blooming bulb. The young bulbs can be grown on to blooming size, or the whole may be thrown away, if one does not want the trouble of rearing them.

++

Gardening on a Chicago roof.

I live in a Chicago flat, where ground is very scarce, but I have a fine, large roof on the west side of the house, and last year had some boxes of dirt and tried to raise a few plants, such as pinks, verbenas, phlox and pansies; but the plants were covered with little green lice and I could not get rid of them, although I tried tobacco water and insect powder. I am going to try this year again. I had quite a number of young geraniums last fall, but the worms killed them. The worms are white, small, not much larger than a hair, and from an eighth to a quarter of an inch long. They would cause the roots to rot. Can you tell me what to do for them, as I don't want to give up, but will try again this fall to keep plants in the house.

Chicago, Ill.

MRS. A. B.

Tobacco soap will surely destroy green fly or plant aphis. A little of it dissolved in water and syringed or sprayed on the plants will prove effective.

For the white worm see answer in this department to a similar inquiry.

++

Moles Troublesome.

The moles are very bad at our place; have destroyed quite a portion of the lawn, have eaten the tulips, and other hardy plants. Do you know of any way of getting rid of them? Would be greatly obliged for any information with regard to them.

Ingraw, Pa.

MRS. E. D. M.

Moles can be killed with traps. They can be driven away by placing balls of

cotton soaked in kerosene in the runways. They can be destroyed by means of bi-sulphide of carbon: Make holes in the ground, with a dibble, as much as six or eight inches in depth, and pour a teaspoonful of the liquid bi-sulphide into each hole, and immediately close it up. The holes should be made all about in the space where the moles are known, or suspected, to be running.

++

Black Beetle on Asters.

Can you tell me about the small black beetle that eats the heart out of the aster, and how to get rid of it? I had such poor luck with mine I gave it up and did not plant any for several years.

Chambersburg, Pa.

MRS. F. H. S.

In answer to this inquiry we here re-publish what one of our correspondents wrote us on this subject, and which appeared in the September number of last year, giving only what relates especially to this insect:

I use a pan partly filled with water, into which a little kerosene has been poured,—just enough to cover the water,—then early every morning and in the evening I go over the plants and jar and shake the bugs into the pan. They have a habit of "possumming" and will drop as soon as disturbed; when they touch the kerosene they give a few kicks and expire. A few days of careful picking will rid the plants of the pests.

++

Begonias.

I should be very glad of any information in regard to the care of begonias, as I wish to make a collection of them. I would also like to know the names of the most desirable varieties.

MRS. E. W. S.

Pawtucket, R. I.

The care of begonias is comparatively simple, they being well adapted to ordinary window culture. The varieties are very numerous, and, aside from the tuberous kinds, they are included in two divisions,—one of which embraces those specially prized for their blooming qualities, and the other those having remarkably handsome foliage. A few of the best of the flowering varieties are B. semperflorens and its several variations, B. argentea guttata, B. argyrostigma picta, B. Gilsoni, B. Feastii, B. rubra, B. Sandersonii, B. zebrina. There are many others that are excellent.

++

Keeping Dahlia Bulbs.—White Worms.

1—Will you please advise me how to keep dahlia bulbs through the winter.

2—Also how to keep little white worms out of the soil in pots.

MRS. A. B. C.

Glen Wild, N. Y.

1—When dahlias are lifted in the fall the tubers can be left for two or three days in a dry, shady place to part with some of their moisture, and then place them in boxes of dry sand and set them on a shelf in a dry, frost-proof cellar.

2—Many methods are successfully resorted to to kill the white worms, as enquired about. Here are a few of them: Add one teaspoonful of liquid ammonia to a quart of water, and saturate the soil in the pot with it. Another way is to mix a teaspoonful of ground white pepper in a quart of boiling water; water the soil with this, and follow it up once a week for three weeks. Here is another way:

Concluded on page 124.

BUDS & FRUIT

Weeds are real robbers.
Thin more freely this year.
Have you planted some nasturtiums?
Treat cut-worms to some poisoned bran.
Evergreens are at the top notch of beauty now.

Roses will well repay for some manure water.

Bones broken up coarsely are capital for pot drainage.

Black knot. Cut it from the plum trees and burn as soon as it is seen.

Tree roses are hardly successful with us. Too much sun for the trunks.

A hint to window gardeners: Gladiolus do excellently planted in boxes and pots.

At least one flower comes better in rather poor soil,—the annual chrysanthemum.

Running bean and pea vines unprovided with supports are a reproach to any gardener. Does this hit?

The famous Shaw's Garden, at St. Louis, Mo., is to be grandly remodelled and enlarged, almost at once.

What next, we wonder. Budded rose bushes are now being sold in the department dry goods stores.

If your rose bushes stand in sod, they cannot be doing much; invert the sod, give scrupulously clean culture, and then see.

Did you set some cuttings of grapes, currants or flowering shrubs in the fall or spring? If so, your next duty is to see that not a weed shows among them.

It is claimed that the earlier fruits,—like cherries,—are less exhaustive to the tree than the longer season growers,—like apples. What is your experience, orchardist?

Kohl rabi. There are those who claim not to like this delicious vegetable. We believe we are safe in saying that the fault is because of the common practice of letting them get too old before cooking. Cook at two-thirds its growth or less.

This Magazine advocates a mulch for the pea patch, when practicable. It improves and extends the crop; it keeps down weeds; it makes better walking in picking. Substitute strawberry for pea, and the application will be right, also.

Something fine. Buffalo, N. Y., is about erecting a \$100,000 public conservatory and palm house as an added attraction to her present grand park system. The new glass is located in the new South Park, in proximity to the Botanic Gardens started a few years ago.

We are still waiting for a single argument in favor of planting the capricious and costly rhododendrons, over the grandly effective and reliable paeonies, in masses, in our northern gardens. Yet many rhododendrons are sold every year. Usually the buyers, also, are sold.

Artificial plants, such as dracaenas, palms, agapanthus, etc., made of muslin, metal and

color, as frequently seen in store show windows, are certainly a compliment to nature, for that which is unworthy is not imitated. They, however, deceive neither bees nor real plant lovers.

Commencement Day idea. In arranging vase, table or dress flowers, if the kinds and colors are kept somewhat separate the effect will be finer than if there is an indiscriminate mix. Even pansies, well as they look when mixed, are more effective for being grouped somewhat by color.

A good effect. An effect that often has been commented upon by visitors to my garden is surprisingly simple. It consists of two plants of the yellow day lily, *Hemerocallis flava*, grouped irregularly with four plants of common blue flag. The contrast, both in foliage and flowers, is charming.—B.

A State forest park. In April a law was passed whereby New York State will acquire \$1,000,000 worth of Adirondack forest lands. This, with the State's present holdings, will give our commonwealth ownership of more than 5,000,000 acres of land in the Adirondack Mountains. A noble preserve indeed.

Annual flowers. These are not taking a "back seat" to geraniums, coleus, and the like, as some thought they were destined to do, because of a foolish craze, a few years ago. The former cost less, cut better, and in rainy times especially look positively handsome, when scarlet geraniums have a dull and most depressing appearance.

Bees and poison. A new law in Vermont provides for a fine of from \$10 to \$40 for spraying or otherwise applying Paris green or other poisonous substances to fruit trees when in blossom. It was passed at the request of the Vermont Beekeeper's Association. It is not necessary to spray trees when they are in bloom in order to give them protection against insect and fungus attacks,—doing so just before or after will answer quite as well.

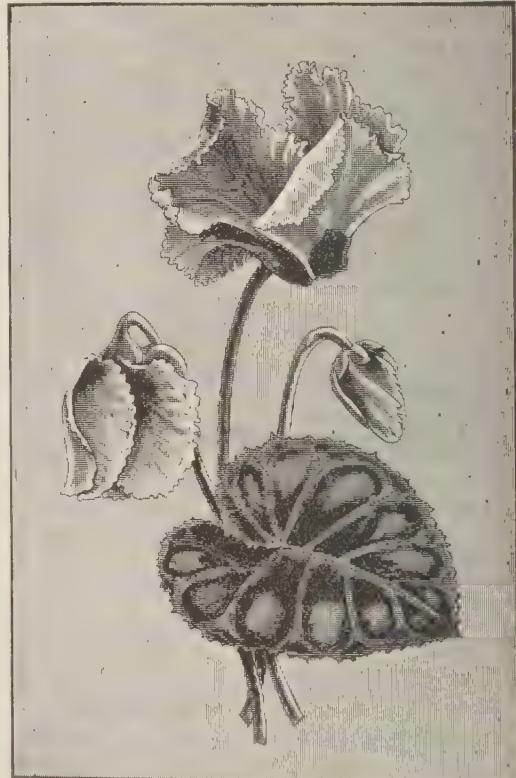
Summer mulching. Has the reader ever moved a heap of garden litter in dry weather, that has laid since spring? If so, he could not have helped noticing how damp the soil of that spot was as compared with the surrounding space. Mulching was the cause. It is of especial benefit to newly planted trees. But one can mulch without carting materials on the soil,—stir the surface of the soil after each shower, and you provide a mulch just as deep as the soil has been stirred.

A crowning feature of next autumn's fair of the American Institute, in New York, will be flowers, of course,—no great fair can be complete without these. Of the seven weeks during which the fair will be held, four of them will be given to a special show of flowers, plants, fruits and vegetables. The first week of the horticultural section, beginning September 27th, will be dahlia week; it is anticipated that 50,000 dahlia blooms will be on display. If that occurs, as looked for, what a rebuke it will be to the idea that this grand old flower is no longer a favorite; it will testify rather to its growing popularity. The fair will be held in Madison Square Garden; \$5,000 will be given in cash premiums, besides medals and diplomas.

Two kinds of gardens. Most of us have met the two kinds of gardens which Alfred Austin, the English poet, differentiates as owner's gardens and gardener's gardens. According to the poet laureate nearly all the grand and costly gardens are gardener's gardens.

And then he alludes to the small cottage gardens, "Little village or secluded plats, cultivated and made beautiful by the pathetic expedients of the poor," which seem to have a charm that the others cannot rival. It is indeed the glory of our beloved art that it is open to the rich and poor alike; the former seek to make much of it, the latter find some of their sweetest joys and delights therein. It is one of the commonest of events for the poor to grow flowers so handsome, and so abundant, that a monarch might well envy their success. Flowers are the appropriate gift of love,—is it strange, therefore, that success in their culture seems to be largely in proportion as we love them?

From flower to weed. Had we estimated the scarlet hawkweed by its common name, treating it as a weed deserves, and left it in its Alpine home in Europe, this country would be a great deal better off. Still it may be said that it is not a bad weed in Europe, hence the nurserymen are not so much to blame, but in this



THE NEW FRINGED CYCLAMEN, PAPILIO:

country it is proving to be a terror. It is a handsome, scarlet-flowered perennial, known to the catalogues as *Hieracium aurantiacum*. It spreads by rootstocks, runners and seeds; when once it becomes established it will crowd out and kill even grass. Fortunately there are two remedies that prove effective against it, viz.; Clean cultivation, and salt. Where it has gained a hold in lawns or meadows it has been found, as a result of careful tests made at the Vermont Experiment Station, that eighteen pounds of salt per square rod will kill the hawkweed and will benefit the grass. All our readers are warned against allowing it to spread. It is getting an ominous hold in many places.

Support for sweet peas. Mrs. Hargrave's plan for making a sweet pea pillar, shown in your last issue, is a good one, provided one has the necessary wire netting for the purpose. Last season I hit upon another and very simple plan of making a sweet pea cone, which required only such material for the support as is

found about every house. It took one barrel and keg hoop each, a stake and some twine, besides a cap of wood for the top of the stake, and in which holes had been bored to receive the twine. The accompany sketches will show how the support was made, and will also give an idea of the appearance of the cone when covered with sweet peas. The stake, about six feet long, was driven one foot into the ground; the lower hoop was supported by notched stakes at three inches from the ground. The middle hoop was put in place after the stringing had been done, its purpose being to steady the twine and keep it from sagging. I favor this way of sowing sweet peas, for the reason that one can easily keep the blooms picked from a cone or two, and that is conducive to extended flowering.—E. E. L., Oneida Co., N. Y.

Fringed Cyclamens. The strains and races of cyclamen that have developed from the well known *Cyclamen Persicum*, are now quite numerous. That further improvements in this flower are yet to come is apparent from a new departure from the type, which the Gar-

not slight that grand native climber, *Tecoma radicans*. There is not a more deserving hardy climber in the entire catalogue. Although the trumpet vine is a native of this country, from New York to Florida and far to the westward, yet in no sense is it weedy in character. It does not grow too rampantly, and yet in time it may reach a distance of forty to eighty feet. Specimens of this size are sometimes met clambering over tall trees in the woods. The plant is usually found growing wild in thickets along river bottoms,—a hint as to its adaptability for culture wherever lawns are kept watered, and also in crowded city quarters. One of the handsomest garden objects the writer can recall is a portico covered with the trumpet vine, in a situation considerably shaded by trees. With plenty of moisture at its roots the foliage of the vine is magnificent, the leaves being several feet in length, of a rich, dark green, and almost as handsome as those of the pinnate-leaved palms. But, after all, the chief glory of this vine is its splendid, scarlet, trumpet-like flowers that come in clusters, in mid-summer and later. Its time

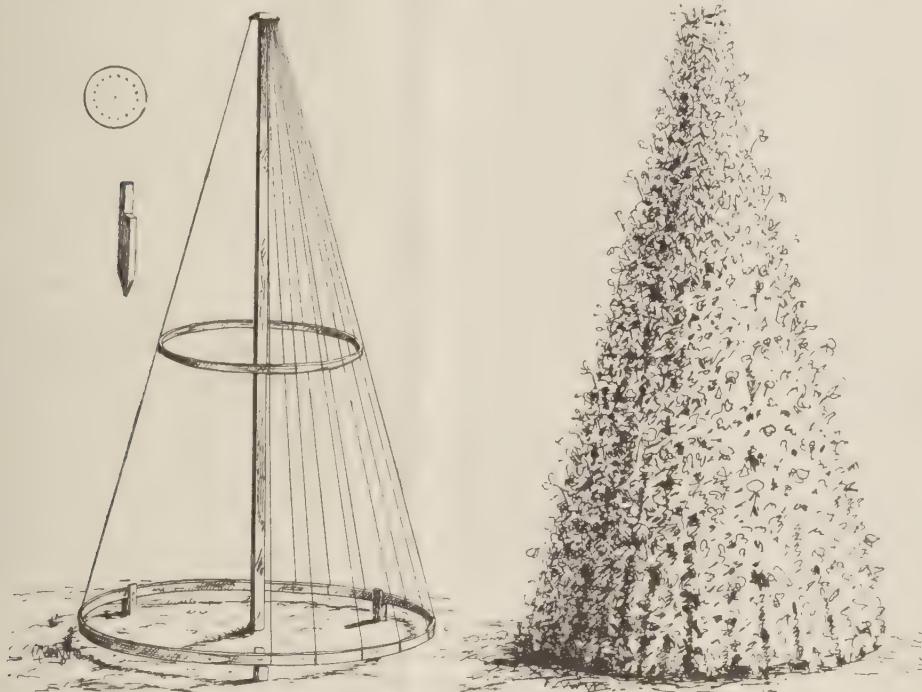
quite overlook. Crowded plants can no more do well than can crowded children or grown people. In a flower show the other night, where there were many visitors, a woman fell back as if dead—she had fainted. She had to be taken out of the crowd before she could recover. So plants get weak and faint, in a sense, from being too crowded; they injure each other when they stand very close. This is a lesson which all of young friends should learn. It is well to sow seeds thickly so that if some fail, as will quite likely happen, enough will be left for a crop. Here the gardener's part comes in. As soon as the plantlets are well up, they must be thinned out. With some kinds the extra ones may be set in another place. Sometimes plants are thinned out, but not enough.

What is it that happens when plants stand too close together? They become drawn,—that is they get leggy and weak, and such cannot give good results. Besides, when too many plants take food and drink from one spot they starve and suffer in other ways. Roots of crowded plants do not travel far in search of food. Such plants are in a miserable state.

Now, you will ask, how much must plants be thinned? A rule cannot be laid down for all kinds. Take mignonette, and the finest flowers come from plants that stand not less than a foot apart. Blooms from plants at this distance cannot be compared with the weak spikes from crowded ones. Asters, stocks and dwarf nasturtiums need about the same space as mignonette. The stronger growing balsams and marigolds need even more, and so on.

But you may be raising vegetables from seed. They also must be thinned. Many is the crop of these that has been a perfect failure, only because the young plants had not been properly thinned.

Now I will leave you with a lesson to work out: Take a certain row of seedling plants, thin out one-third of the length to have the plants very far apart; one-third with the plants closer, and the remainder do not thin out at all. For the result we will wait until fall; then you will have an answer to the question of distance for that kind.



"E. E. L.'s" METHOD OF TRAINING SWEET PEAS IN CONE FORM.

dener's Chronicle, of London, Eng., recently called attention to, with an illustration. This is a strain of fringed flowers, of which the accompanying figure shows the characteristics. In the judgement of our London contemporary it is certain that this new type will develop into forms of great beauty in the future. In this variation the petals branch so as to form crests and fringes analagous to what we see in many of the kails. The fringe is quite like that of the Chinese primrose, and as such is certainly quite distinct for this flower, which is so great a favorite, both with amateurs and commercial florists. This race was first brought out by a Brussels florist, M. de Langhe-Vervæne, who designates it as "Papilio." Specimens of the flowers recently brought to the attention of a London floral committee were specially remarkable for the breadth of the petal, which was often less reflexed than usual. It is desirable thus to note the first beginnings of changes which may in time prove of great importance.

The scarlet trumpet flower. As there is a tendency to bring back many of our old garden favorites, which fashion a few years ago was ready to decry as out of good form, let us

of bloom is especially to be noted, for at its season almost every other hardy shrub and climber is without flowers, while not a single one besides seems to enliven the garden with handsome, large flowers of brilliant scarlet like these. Let us not, therefore, in our planting pass this old climber, grand in foliage, in flowers, in habit, taking instead less meritorious kinds as has been too much the custom.

* * *



DEAR GIRLS AND BOYS:

In my other letter I told you about young plants needing light, food and other things that we can provide. They also need room in which to develop, a matter some young gardeners seem to

HALL'S Vegetable Sicilian HAIR RENEWER

Will restore gray hair to its youthful color and beauty—will thicken the growth of the hair—will prevent baldness, cure dandruff, and all scalp diseases. A fine dressing. The best hair restorer made.

R. P. Hall & Co., Props., Nashua, N. H.
Sold by all Druggists.

Letter Box.

CONCLUDED.

Scatter some ground mustard over the surface of the pot, enough to make quite a layer, and then, with a fork or some small instrument, stir the ground until the mustard is well worked in. Then saturate the soil with quite warm water.

++

Roses in Texas.

A letter received from Mr. A. C. P., of Dallas, Texas, makes a number of inquiries in regard to the mulching of roses. The communication on this subject in the present issue of this journal, entitled "Value of Mulch in Rose Culture," gives the information desired. Our correspondent, in connection with his inquiries, makes the following statements:

My roses are not doing well this year,—neither those that I received from you, nor New York, nor Philadelphia, nor home-grown roses. Roses begin to bloom in this latitude about the last days in March and consequently have been in bloom now (April 26th) a month. The first week or ten days the roses were good, but since then the aphis has made its appearance in vast numbers; and also little slugs or maggots that bore into the buds at the base, and also eat off the tops of the buds. There is also a little bug, lengthy in form, and reddish or brown in appearance, that is at the base of the petals as soon as the first leaves begin to unfold; is this the red spider?

I mulch with cow manure that is old and dry, and ground into powder almost. I have thought at times that the mulch was injurious, but my neighbors and the entire city complain about poor roses in the same manner as I do. We have had considerable rain this spring,—more than usual,—and high winds, both of which must have contributed their share of destructive influence.

The cow manure used dry, as a mulch, can probably not be harmful in any way, but a positive benefit.

As for insects, that is a difficulty that all rose growers are obliged to contend with, but so, also, with nearly all other plants. The aphis can be destroyed with a solution of whale-oil soap in water,—one pound to eight gallons of water; and this should be applied with a garden syringe, so as to throw it on with force. By so doing the liquid will reach all parts of the foliage, drenching the insects and driving many of them to the ground, where they will perish. By following up the use of the soapy water, the aphides can be kept down.

The "slugs or maggots that bore into the buds" are more difficult to manage. It will be found that they have webs on the leaves, drawing the leaf together or folding it, and conceal themselves inside. The plants should be carefully looked over and every folded leaf squeezed between thumb and fore-finger. A little watchfulness, some patience, and considerable perseverance, will enable one to keep this insect in check in the manner now mentioned.

The reddish or brown insect noticed is not the red spider, nor are we able to say what it is. In last month's MAGAZINE, page 103, the receipt was given for kerosene emulsion; with this preparation, and with whale-oil soap, and tobacco-water, and when necessary the two last named mixed together, one ought to be able to conquer the insect enemies of the rose.

JUNE JOTTINGS.

AGRIPPINA is still about the most satisfactory rose for house culture. It has not the size and brilliancy of color of many other roses, but the very choicest varieties do not readily lend themselves to house culture. Indeed it is of no use to try to succeed with them under ordinary conditions. The same time and labor spent on some other flower will give far more satisfactory results. Try Agrippina if you want a rose with which you can succeed.

Have you seen the new hardy Japanese climbing rose, Crimson Rambler? If not, a pleasant treat is in store for you. Its flowers are borne in great clusters of glowing crimson. It is of very rapid growth and has every merit a true climbing rose should have.

Here is a list of roses every one of which is a royal beauty. If you attend a rose show at any time look up these varieties and see if you do not "rave" over them: Madame Gabriel Luizet, Dinsmore, Louis Van Houtte, Duke of Edinburg, Baroness Rothschild, Merveille de Lyon, Mabel Morrison, Persian Yellow, Prosper Langier, and Sultan of Zanzibar.

Marion Dingee is a splendid bedding rose. It is of such a rich, deep color and its flowers are so full and graceful in form. It is of the very best habit and has had no end of praise given it by those who have put it to the test.

The amateur, and particularly one with not much time to devote to gardening, will do well to leave the budding of roses to the florist and skilled gardener. It is not easy to bud roses and one's time in the garden can be better employed.

Your bed of annuals is incomplete if you have left poppies out of it. Nothing is finer for brilliancy of bloom and no flower is more easily cultivated. It is not too late now to sow seeds of the poppy. Try the Shirley poppies if you have never cultivated them. They come in every variety of tint and color and are immensely satisfactory.

H.

**

YELLOW ROSES.

DO you remember that old-fashioned yellow rose which grew in your mother's, and your grandmother's garden? Do you remember its exquisite perfume and the deep rich green of its small leaves? And how thorny the branches were! Perfectly hardy and requiring little care, this rose was in every door yard. It bloomed earlier than most roses and none that came after it was of a clearer yellow or had a sweeter perfume.

Among the hardy roses yellow varieties are not numerous, but among the Teas we find a number of very beautiful yellow roses; Etoile de Lyon is a magnificent rose of a rich golden yellow, a profuse bloomer and unusually hardy for a Tea

rose. Its near relative, Perle des Jardins, is another handsome orange-yellow rose. Edward Gontier presents still another shade of yellow, being of a rich creamy tint, with a rosy buff center; it is one of the most daintily beautiful of all the yellow Teas. Other fine yellow Tea roses are Safrano, Marie Van Houtte, Charles de Franciosi, Comtesse de Frigneuse, Comtesse de Witztheim, Jeanne d'Arc, Isabella Sprunt, Louis Richard, James Nabonnand, Madame Catherine Fontaine and several others.

None of the yellow ever-blooming roses surpass in beauty and popularity that old true and tried favorite Perle des Jardins, with unusually large flowers of a clear golden yellow. It might well be called the Queen of the yellow Tea roses. Those to whom this beautiful yellow rose is still a stranger will find a delightful surprise awaiting them when they see it.

Gustave Regis is a climbing Hybrid Tea rose of a pale canary yellow, of exquisite shape and richly perfumed. It does not, however, surpass in beauty that old favorite the Marechal Niel. This lovely rose still holds its own as a leader among climbing Tea and Noisette roses. Its buds and full flowers of a deep golden yellow delight all who see them. It reaches its highest degree of perfection in the south, but, if properly cultivated, splendid results are secured from it in any climate. Madame Caroline Kuster and Solfaterre are two very handsome yellow roses. Sunset and Valle de Chamounix never fail to give satisfaction.

Many of these roses can be cultivated with success in the house if one is willing to give them the intelligent care they demand. It would not be true to write that they require little care or that it is as easy to succeed with them as with any other flower. It is not an easy matter to grow roses outside of a greenhouse in the winter time, and they do require a good deal of care to keep them in a good healthy condition and free from the ravages of all the different insects and worms that love to feed upon them. If you can succeed at all you can succeed with the ever-blooming roses.

J. L. H.

A Good Appetite

Is essential for perfect health and physical strength, but when the blood is weak, thin, and impure, the stomach cannot perform its duty and the appetite fails. Hood's Sarsaparilla is a wonderful medicine for creating an appetite and giving sound digestion. It purifies the blood, tones the stomach, and gives strength to the nerves and health to the whole system.

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Is the best—in fact the One True Blood Purifier.

Hood's Pills cure nausea, indigestion, biliousness, 25 cents.

GARDEN NOTES.

CELERY is a vegetable that not further back than ten years did I have the energy to undertake to grow. It required too much hard labor for a man somewhat deficient in physical strength. But, ah! Celery growing is a different thing from what it once was. Anyone able even "to potter" about the garden can easily produce a few dozen or a few hundred bunches of as nice celery as one need have.

What wrought this wonderful change? Simply the discovery and introduction of the dwarf, almost self-blanching varieties, like the White Plume, Golden Self-blanching, and like kinds (there a good many more "named sorts" that are not varieties). With celery, as with peas, cabbage, etc., every distinct variety has a score of synonyms.

The beginning of celery growing consists in procuring fresh seeds of one of the varieties above named. The next thing is to sow the seed in a well prepared cold-frame five to six weeks before the plants will be needed to set out in the beds. The next move is to prepare the beds. If made along a fence where only one side is "get-at-able," three feet is wide enough for the beds. If out in the open where there can be a narrow walk on both sides, the beds can be made four or five feet wide, and as long as you choose to have them. Prepare the soil by deep digging or plowing and carefully pulverize it, working in at the same time a sufficiency of good manure or fertilizer. It is important to use manure that is free from weed seeds, and that will not heat up again and possibly burn the roots in any period of dry weather. But the plants must not be allowed to suffer for water,—those who have the best facilities for irrigating are the ones that should make celery growing the most profitable. Have the beds well pulverized and firmed down with the roller by the time the plants are ready; set the plants in twelve-inch rows and eight inches apart in the row. Press the soil firmly to the roots and then give a copious watering if rain is not immediately promised.

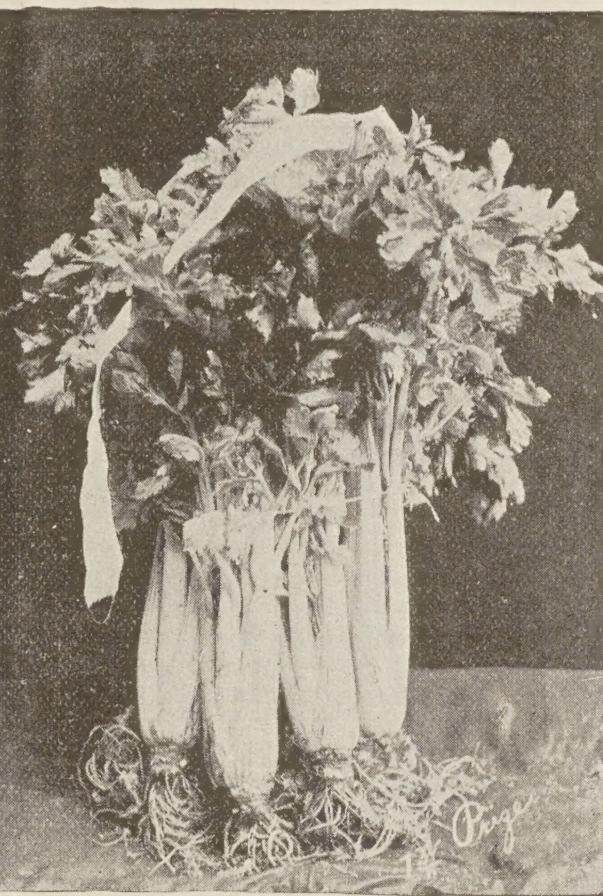
Proceed at once to provide the material for mulching. Here in the South we use the cheap pine straw or cottonseed hulls. Clean straw, leaves or chaff will answer. Fill up the spaces between the plants, drawing the mulch up closely about them. The mulch should be deep enough to keep the soil moisture from evaporating, but the celery leaves should not be covered until the time arrives to blanch; then from time to time enough straw is put on to protect from the light, and in a week the blanching will be complete. To have stocky plants a good rule is to sow the seed in eight or ten-inch rows in the

frame, and just as soon as the young plants are large enough to be transplanted, carefully draw out and transplant into the center of the rows, three inches apart. Use glass to germinate, but varnished cloth is sufficient to use over the plants to keep the soil warm during the night.

Celery growing is an easy and delightful thing compared to what it was when deep trenches were considered essential.

SAM'L A. COOK.

Milledgeville, Ga.



CELERY—GOLDEN SELF-BLANCHING.

SWEET BRIAR ROSES.

THE old English sweet briar rose or Eglantine has always been a favorite, but within the last few years it has been more extensively advertised and planted. Its fragrance is so refreshing and both flower and foliage are so simple and beautiful that it is no wonder it grows in favor. It needs no care, indeed it often runs wild where it was planted years ago. A low moist situation where the ground is not too wet, just suits it, though it will grow anywhere. It is fine for hedges, and will bear any amount of trimming and clipping to keep it in good form, though it makes a more graceful appearance if allowed to grow in its own way.

From this old favorite, new hybrids have been obtained, that are already immensely popular. As a rule, the hybrids have kept the strong growing qualities, fragrant foliage and hardiness of the Sweet Briar, and also have many of the good qualities of the other parent, which is generally one of the old favorite

garden roses or the Austrian Brier. They are all very vigorous growers, some of them while still young reaching a height of ten or twelve feet. They are most beautiful when growing singly in their natural way, with little pruning, as they throw out long graceful branches which sway in the wind, throwing their refreshing fragrance all around. They do better without much pruning, nothing being needed except removing of some of the old wood and poorly shaped branches; if pruned too much they will not produce many flowers. They are often grown in this way: The two principal shoots are tied firmly to a stout stake four or five feet high, to steady the bush, and the other branches are left to follow their own sweet will, drooping naturally.

The new hybrids are called Lord Penzance's hybrids and some of them are named below. Anne Geirstein is a dark rich crimson, with large foliage; Brenda; a soft peach color or blush, delightfully fragrant; Flora McIvor, pure white with a faint trace of blush, flower large and in clusters; Lord Penzance, pale yellow, somewhat changeable, often having a decided rose tint with a greenish center; this is a remarkably sweet-scented variety and profuse bloomer. It is a hybrid of Sweet Briar with Harrison's Yellow, the latter a well known hardy rose. Lady Penzance, copper color, with a peculiar metallic lustre not often seen in flowers; each petal has a bright yellow spot at the base, which gives it a remarkable appearance. The branches of this sort droop considerably, and when in bloom it is a beautiful sight. Lucy Ashton is a beautiful variety, white with a delicate pink edge around the petal, very fragrant, but flowers a little smaller than the other sorts. In all of these roses the stamens are large and conspicuous, which gives added beauty to the flowers. Z.

Nerves

need rest and toning up when they have been worn out by overwork or strain. This rest they get from a pure tonic like

Pabst Malt Extract

The "BEST" Tonic
made from malt, the concentrated food, in a soluble form, and hops, the gentle nerve tonic.

Pabst Malt Extract builds up the nervous and the physical system; cures nervousness, headache, indigestion, and makes you hearty and strong.

Sold by all druggists at 25c.
a bottle or 12 for \$2.50.

A TALK ABOUT THE DANDELION.

No. 2.

NOW for another talk about our little, cheery friend, the dandelion. It is so early in the spring that the stems have not had time to grow long enough to make horns or chains or curls of, and the flowers look like great gold buttons which Nature has used in her latest spring upholstery. Later on we shall see that the stems will grow up as high as they can, in order to give the dandelion children a good chance to make a start in the world.



DANDELION—fig. 1.

When you pull to pieces what you have called a dandelion flower, you find that it is made up of more parts like figure 1 than you would care to count. These separate parts are called *florets*, because each one is a little flower. Now you see why the dandelion is called a "head of flowers,"—it is made up of so many of these separate or individual florets. This little yellow strap-like part of the floret is called the *corolla*; it is somewhat tongue shaped, and is therefore called a *ligulate* corolla, because ligulate means "like a tongue"; no wonder the dandelion seems to wish to talk to us; what a buzz there would be if it could use all its tongues.

Aside from the enjoyment a plant has in being alive and growing, the chief object of its life is to ripen seed to grow more plants. Now you want to know how the dandelion grows its seed. When children ask how the street cars are run, or the cities lighted, and they are told "by electricity," the answer is not very satisfactory. I wonder whether we can get any better or clearer understanding of how the dandelion grows its seeds? You have been thinking that "the dandelion is just a common yellow flower that everybody knows about," but you had no idea that there is a kind of a little factory in each of these little florets where a seed is being manufactured. Of course, in order to manufacture anything there must be some kind of machinery, and materials to work upon. You never thought a plant had to work, did you? You were so busy playing you never stopped to think anything about plants or seeds, or how they grew.

If you will look at the figure of the little floret again, you will see a little column surrounding a slender stem; this stem is surmounted by two tiny tendril-like bodies. This is the visible part of

our dandelion factory. This little column is made up of five *stamens*, which are joined together by their *anthers*. The tendril-like bodies are the *stigmas*, and the little stem on which they grow is the *style*. These are perhaps all new words to you, but if you should go through even an old-fashioned gristmill you would not know the name of any of the machinery. But you could learn all about every part if you would set about it,—for you can do whatever you try hard enough.

These parts, stamens, anthers, styles, and stigmas, are found in most all flowers, so when you learn them you are not only learning the parts of the dandelion floret, but of flowers generally,—and so if you think this is a hard lesson, you may congratulate yourselves that you are learning something about a great many flowers, when you thought you were studying about only one.



DANDELION—head and leaf.

You have sometimes thrust your nose vigorously against the dandelion in your eagerness to smell and enjoy it, and as a consequence the tip of your nose was covered with a fine, yellow powder; this powder is manufactured by the anthers and is called *pollen*. The separate or single grains are so small you cannot see them, and you cannot see what takes place when the pollen falls upon the stigma, unless you could look through a microscope, which I hope you may some day. For the present you will have to take for granted what I tell you about it. We may call the stigma a sort of magic hopper where the pollen, or flour, falls, which is to help form the new seed. After resting a while in this enchanted place, a change comes over the pollen; the tiny grains begin to grow or send out long tubes which find their way down through the hollow style to the *ovary*, or sort of little plant cradle, where the ovule or seed begins to grow. When the pollen was growing in the anthers and the stig-

mas were ripening to receive it, this plant-cradle, or ovary, was all the while making preparations and getting things ready for for the coming of the pollen-tube; so, when it finally makes its appearance, there must be great rejoicing (which we never hear anything about), for it is only after the arrival of the pollen-tube that baby seed begins to grow. It is not only the dandelion seeds which are formed or grow in this way, but all plants which have flowers produce their seeds in the same way.

We will let the dandelion seed sleep in its dainty little cradle until our next lesson, when we will see why the stems grow up high after the flower has opened (if it has not done so before). You may think about the things we have learned, in the meantime, look at the dandelions as if you knew them better, and do not forget to notice the relations. It will be interesting to you to look at some of these relations (the genera) to see if you can find any traces of resemblance,—any family likeness.

MRS. W. A. KELLERMAN.

**

VEGETABLE NOTES.

THE bush Lima beans have come to stay with me. I look upon them as among the most satisfactory vegetable novelties brought out in many years. The trouble of providing supports, as needed for the climbing Limas, in their case is wholly done away. Given light, rich soil, and the dwarfs, of which I grow Burpee's and Dreer's, are decidedly prolific. It is strange how many gardens we may yet visit in any neighborhood in which these valuable beans are not to be seen.

**

Lima beans seem to be subject to their ills as do so many other things of this world,—the blight of leaf and pod being commonly met on them. Fortunately, as in the case with the common bean rust, the trouble is not very destructive; its appearance being most marked toward the close of the season. I have noticed each season that some plants are more subject to the spot than are others. This has led to the question whether it cannot be gotten rid of by selecting seed from the least affected plants. I began doing this last season and shall repeat it.

**

Last fall I packed turnips, parsnips and beets in the cellar on a new plan. This was by the use of clean sphagnum or moss obtained from the woods. Into this I packed by using a heavy sprinkling of shredded moss between layers of the vegetables. Where the advantages of moss come in over soil is that it is less affected by dryness and is more cleanly in case of rot and in handling, and it is also a poorer conductor. Thus far the experiment has pleased me very well, the vegetables coming out fresh and crisp. It is more pleasing to take a batch of vegetables for cooking, from the moss than from other substances I heretofore have used in packing.

*

MAKE THE SUMMER GLAD.

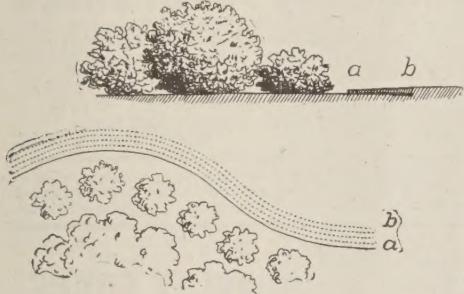
O make the summer glad with a bit of bloom
To cheer the hearts, day by day,
Upon their toilsome way,
With the blessing of its beauty and its sweet perfume.
O make the summer glad with a bit of green,
To make for weary feet
A carpet cool and sweet;
A place to come for heart content when west'ring
shadows lean.
Plant roses, pinks and violets to bloom about your
door,
And, prithee, don't forget
The darling mignonette,
For love's own message soft it breathes when busy
days are o'er.
O make the home place beautiful with grass and
flowers,
For love cords best entwine
With leaf and flow'r and vine,
And home is where the heart dwells in sweetest,
gladdest hours.

DART FAIRTHORNE.

**

THE MARGINS OF LAWN BEDS.

THE neatest, and at the same time the most economical edging for flower or shrub beds on the lawn is the grass edge. By this is meant that instead of using edging tile, bricks, or stones to define the bed, it is better to simply cut the bed into the lawn, as it were, and keep the verge neatly pared down with an edging iron. In the absence of this tool, a sharp spade answers very well.



THE MARGINS OF LAWN BEDS.

An objection to this kind of edging, however, can be raised. It is that the oft-repeated paring down of the edges of the bed means that it becomes enlarged each time,—if it is trimmed back an inch and a half in the spring, and another inch during the season, that means five inches each two years. As shown in the engraving, if the original outline is at *a*, repeated cutting of the edges will, in a few years, bring it back to *b*.

But, after all, the difficulty is easily surmounted. This may be done by simply calculating on laying a line of sod between *a* and *b*, as shown in the upper part of the engraving; count on doing this at intervals of about eight years apart,—a matter easily performed, as a little rake-grading will suffice to prepare the bed for the sod.

In many cases of shrubbery beds, the objection to the enlargement of the tilled surface scarcely will apply. This is because the spreading out, by growth, of the outer line of shrubs keeps pace with the receding of the grass edge by cutting. Then again, many who plant flowering shrubs, evergreen, etc., for lawn embellishment, do not care to keep the surface over the roots tilled, save for a few years,

until the growths have a good start. After that, some soil is filled into the depression at the edge of the bed to even it up with the lawn surface, and grass seed is sown where the branches do not rest on the ground. Thus the surface is presently brought under the lawn mower, with every appearance of the bed done away. *

VALUE OF MULCH IN ROSE CULTURE.

FEW rose-growers seem to realize the great benefit of a mulch in growing fine roses. In the majority of places where an attempt is made to grow the rose, water is scarce and hard to apply, and generally when a drouth sets in the roses are neglected and in a very short time fail to be a "thing of beauty," if indeed the plants do not die outright. On the other hand, in city gardens where water is plenty and easily applied, and is frequently used, it, in many cases, fails to accomplish the object desired, because used improperly. Every season one can see rose beds which are watered every day, yet the plants are slender and sickly looking, and the owners complain that they are "no good," and often blame the florist for the failure. If one examines one of these beds he will find the surface hard and baked, and which sheds the water almost as perfectly as does the back of a duck; if we pull up one of the plants the roots will be found dry and perishing, while the owner waters freely, and wonders at the ingratitude of his plants.

All of this would be avoided by mulching. On all but the sandiest soils, to obtain real benefit from surface watering, the ground must be stirred after each watering, otherwise it bakes and becomes hard and more harm than good is done; few persons will attend to this properly, hence the remedy is to mulch.

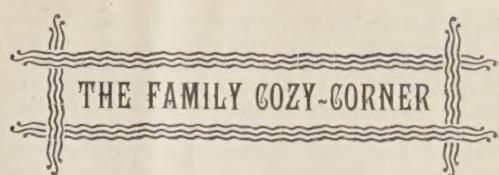
By mulching I do not mean a mere sprinkling of grass or straw, through which the weeds grow, but it must be put on thick enough to prevent all grass or weeds from growing, placing it up close under the plants and over the entire surface of the bed. The mulch not only keeps the soil cool, prevents baking and the evaporation of water when applied, but it also, by capillary attraction, draws moisture from below in time of drouth. The mulching material may be coarse, strawy manure, straw, lawn clippings, etc., care being taken to put on enough.

MARTIN BENSON.

**

UNAPPRECIATED KINDNESS.—Mrs. Suburb—What did you do with the flower seeds?

Suburbs—Fed them to the chickens this morning. I thought I'd save the poor things the trouble of scratching them all up as soon as you planted them.—*New York Journal*.



A Review.

Noticing what Mr. Gilbert, the writer of Spring and Summer in My Garden, has to say in the December number about the Perennial pea, I wish to say that it is not enough to say of it that "it has quantities of flowers every summer," etc. It blooms very full, periodically. If the seed pods are kept off it will bloom continually, and anyway it is full of bloom during the long dry season when most other plants are discouraged,—the hotter the sun the brighter the color. Its roots strike down deep, and are very large, a plant ten or more years old having a root four to six inches in diameter near the surface, and I think no one knows how deep it goes. I should think the stems would greatly exceed fourteen. The white variety is the exact counterpart of the other except in color, and they are lovely grown side by side on the lawn, furnished with a low wide frame to drop over, or they may be seen at their best scrambling over rocks or up an embankment.

It must be because "growing in the grass" that friend Gilbert has no volunteer seedlings. They germinate freely, and grow vigorously, blooming the second season. I have grown both kinds from boughten seeds, and have as many as 100 volunteers every season. The foliage I consider very much prettier than the sweet pea, and is almost evergreen, and so dense that if cut in long sprays and dried loosely between comforters they make elegant material for Christmas decorations.

"Down Easter" should plant Perennial poppy, Meconopsis diphylla, and the large flowering white annual prickly poppy if he wants novelties of great merit. The first loves partial shade, and has beautiful foliage. The latter makes a great show of largest size single flowers the entire summer.

Mrs. L. A. P.

Dunreith, Ind.

++
North and South.

It was somewhat surprising on reading Mrs. Layson's interesting article in February number, "Native Trees and Flowers of North Georgia," to find her flora so much like ours here in Western New York lat. $42^{\circ} 30'$. Of the thirty-seven trees and plants she mentions, nineteen are indigenous with me, several more grow as far or farther north, though not in this region, and all except the passion flower and possibly the "cucumber tree" and "cross vine" are hardy here in cultivation. I greatly suspect her "cucumber tree" (*Magnolia acuminate*) is really the umbrella tree (*M. umbellata*). The cucumber, a very common tree here has alternate leaves the whole length of the shoots, instead of being in a whorl at the ends of them as she describes, and are not often more than eight inches long; the flowers are so green that you do not readily see them on tall trees and they open so little they would pass for buds. The red fruit in fall is much more showy than the flowers. I have one sixteen feet high that has flowered several times. It is no doubt the mountains that make the North Georgian flora regard its latitude so little. Gray often remarks of northern plants that they "range southward in the mountains." I read somewhere that Washington tried to naturalize the maples at Mount Vernon without success and this is much farther north than Georgia. A female red flowering maple, with a million young seeds of the same tint as the flowers of *Lobelia cardinalis*, would make a sensation if just here from Japan; now, it is only a soft maple. We have seven wild violets but *V. pedata* is not among them, and two species of oxalis: *O. acetosella* with both leaves and flowers right from the root, a lively plant with large white flowers lined with red and a yellow eye, in densest woods. The other a weed of cultivated ground, with a branching stem a foot high and bright yellow flowers, *O. corniculata* var. *stricta*. The fly honeysuckle, (*Xylosteum*) mentioned in the March Letter Box, is a common wild shrub all over this region; while it does not bloom in winter it does not wait long in the spring, its flowers being often snowed upon, while its leaves make a show of green in the naked woods. I never saw it cultivated but many worse things are set. E. S. G.

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Pleasant Memories.

Of the numerous catalogues that came to our home during the winter, not one came freighted with as tender, precious memories as did Vick's. The first one I ever saw was his, and oh, what a mine of delight it was to my childish, wondering eyes. I had always

loved flowers, but they were mainly confined to the marigolds, single asters, and morning glories of our grandmothers' garden, and when one day a lady who lived near the school where I attended, saw me admiring her beautiful flowers, and called me in and showed me Vick's Floral Guide, which she had just received, I was lost in admiration over the floral beauties described therein. She gave me some seeds and then told me that by sending for a few packets myself, the Guide would be sent to me, too. This I did, and it has always proved a welcome guest.

The first petunias I ever saw were raised from seed procured of this firm; also the first lilies of the valley, and many other standard favorites.

Time has wrought many changes since those old days. James Vick and the lady who first gave me the seeds have long since passed to the land where "Hope pictures fadeless bloom"; but their gracious influence remains,—as does that of every man or woman who leads a worthy life. The mantle of James Vick seems to have fallen on worthy shoulders, for the Guide still remains one of the best.

Amateurs are often warned against trying novelties, but my experience has been very successful along this line, and those who really desire to have something out of the ordinary, will derive much satisfaction from their culture; the directions for growing should, however, be carefully followed. I used to think that, being a busy housewife and mother, I had no time for only those plants raised with the least care; but I find that life is not long enough to spend with no thought farther than "What shall we eat or wherewithal shall we be clothed." The love of flowers is God-given, and those who indulge it to a certain extent, at least, are amply repaid, particularly where there are children in the family, as they early learn to love and care for flowers, and the influence is always ennobling. In our family the plan of each one selecting his especial favorites from the catalogue and then caring for them, has always worked well.

MRS. M. F.

++

The Star Collection.

I experimented last winter with your Star Collection and am more than pleased; it proved a constant delight—a source of the purest pleasure. We have all been so interested in watching the development of each bulb, from the moment it was planted until the lovely blossoms burst forth. I seldom went into the cellar where the bulbs were rooting, without taking a peep into my moss covered window-garden, and various sized pots, which held my Star Collection. The first tiny green shoots pushing up through the leaf-mold were hailed with delight, and their determined, upward push, down there in the dark and cold, set me thinking more than once, of certain types of human life on this earth of ours, struggling ever upward toward the light, no matter how cold and dark their condition here. Who can tell the meaning of it all, or say that out of these same dark and forbidding conditions, bright and beautiful characters may not develop?

It is wonderful how quickly the dry bulb responds to thoughtful care—the fresh green leaves, with such an air of spring about them, come up so fast as they are brought, little by little, into warmer, brighter quarters. The Roman hyacinths bloomed in two weeks after being brought up from the cellar. Of course these were the first to bloom, some of them sending up two flower stalks. Next came the fragrant Polyanthus narcissus, both the pure white and the yellow and white; these were planted in a row through the middle of my window-box, with the double blue (Bloksberg), and the single white hyacinths at the ends, and the parrot tulips on each side. Other bulbs were planted among these. The ixias, freesias, grape hyacinth, and the double rose hyacinth were put in separate pots. Both the pink and the blue hyacinths were wonderfully beautiful. The single white, too, was very fine, sending up two strong flower-stalks. The grape hyacinth was sweet, showing two clusters of blossoms.

A pot of tulips and crocuses, planted together, surprised us all one cold, blustering day, when a lovely canary-colored tulip burst into bloom; it was a marvel of brightness; we forgot the storm that day. A cardinal tulip and a delicate blush-tinted one were much admired. The little purple crocuses that bloomed around the rim of the tulip pot, brought thoughts of spring. To-day,—a heavy snow storm outside,—the ixias are opening such dainty, fragile flowers, pure white, with a deep crimson center, we all think them perfect. In my window box, the poet's narcissus is in bloom,—two bulbs in opposite corners. Another cluster of paper white narcissus is coming on, these are among the last of our blossoms, to our great regret. The foliage in the window-box is beautiful. The paper white marcus is over two and

a half foot high, and growing yet. One bulb, which I suspected was the feather hyacinth, decayed. The iris has not bloomed. The anemones and parrot tulips are weak, and sickly; came up so, only one blossom from six parrot tulip bulbs. This is my first experience with them, are they harder to cultivate than the other kind? Both freesia bulbs rotted. But from the first trial, one could hardly expect perfect success, with the whole fifty or more bulbs.

I mean to try the Star Collection again. The price seems very small, for so much sunny cheer and brightness as it brought into our home through the winter; and not only into our own home, for many a lovely flower has carried hope and comfort into the sick room and into homes where dear ones were carried out, to return no more, forever.

MRS. F. W. T.

* *

SUGGESTIONS.

You may have a second crop of roses from the hybrid perpetuals in fall, if you will give the plants a good mulching of fine manure and prune them back to induce new growth when they are through blooming this month or next. This treatment sometimes produces a few beautiful roses in the late fall.

A mulch of some kind should be given your sweet pea and lily beds before the very hot weather comes on. These flowers are highly susceptible to drouth and a mulch of grass cuttings will help to retain the moisture after the plants have been watered. It is imperatively necessary that the sweet pea should not become dry at the roots, or it will, in vulgar parlance, be "gone up."

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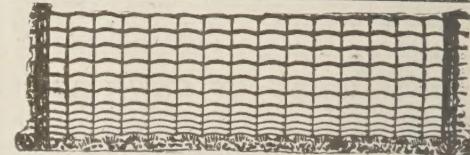
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